

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS PARM, MNUC, TECH, AR
SUBJECT ARGENTINE RATIFICATION OF TLATELOLCO

REF: BUENOS AIRES 3733

1. THE ARGENTINE NEWSPAPERS OF MAY 19 GIVE
EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO ARGENTINAS POSSIBLE
RATIFICATION OF THE TLATELOLCO TREATY - A TOPIC
WHICH WAS CONSIDERED DURING A PLENARY MEETING
OF THE JUNTA MAY 18. THE PRESS CARRIES AN INTERVIEW
OF CNEA PRESIDENT CASTRO MADERO, BUT THE REMARKS
ATTRIBUTED TO HIM VARY, EVEN IN THE SAME NEWSPAPER.
CLARIN, FOR EXAMPLE, IN THE TITLE SUMMARY REPORTS
THAT CASTRO MADERO STATED THAT THE GOA INTENEDS
TO RATIFY TLATELOLCO. THE TEXT OF THE ARTICLE,
HOWEVER, IS LESS CATEGORICAL ON THIS POINT,
REPORTING CASTRO MADERO AS SAYING THAT IF ARGENTINA
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RATIFIES TLATELOLCO, (A MATTER WITHIN THE COMPETENCE
OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY), IT WILL NOT WAIVE THE ENTRY
INTO FORCE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 28.
HE EXPLAINED THAT THIS MEANT THAT ARGENTINA WOULD
NOT BE BOUND BY THE TREATY UNTIL IT HAS BEEN SIGNED
AND RATIFIED BY ALL COUNTRIES IN LATIN AMERICA, BY
ALL COUNTRIES HAVING JURISDICTION OVER TERRITORIES

IN LATIN AMERICA, AND BY COUNTRIES POSSESSING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED THAT CUBA, FRANCE WHICH HAS POSSESSIONS IN MARTINIQUE AND GUADELOUPE, AND THE US (PROTOCOL I) ARE COUNTRIES WHICH STILL HAVE TO TAKE ACTION ON THE TREATY FOR IT TO GO INTO EFFECT. HE ADDED THAT, ONCE THE TREATY IS IN EFFECT, ARGENTINA WILL HAVE OVERCOME THE OBSTACLESIMPOSED BY CANADIAN LEGISLATION TO THE TRANSFER OF NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY TO COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT ACCEPTED ADEUQATE SAFEGUARDS.

2. COMMENT: FROM CASTRO MADEROS REMARKS, IT IS NOW APPARENT THAT THE GOA HAS NOT CHANGED ITS POSITION ON WAIVING PRECONDITIONS FOR ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE TREATY. IN ADDITION, THE FACT THAT CASTRO MADERO DID NOT MENTION PNES WHICH HE HAS ON OTHER PRIVATE OCCASIONS ASSERTED ARE PERMISSIBLE UNDER ARTICLE 18 OF THE TREATY SUGGESTS THAT THE GOA WILL NOT MAKE A STATEMENT ON PNES WHEN IT RATIFIES THE TREATY.

CASTRO

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